

## ABSTRACT

A method for forwarding variable length packets across a multiport switch, the method comprising the steps of: (i) checking, at each time slot, forwarding requests to forward variable length packets from source ports of the multiport switch to destination ports of the multiport switch, wherein ignoring forwarding requests from source ports that were previously scheduled to forward at least a portion of a variable length packet during a next time slot and ignoring forwarding requests from destination ports that are scheduled to receive at least a portion of a variable length packet during the next time slot; (ii) selecting selected forwarding requests out of the forwarding requests; and (iii) configuring the multiport switch for allowing to service the selected forwarding requests during the next time slot.